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Washington, D.C. 20505

14 October 1992

The Honorable John F. Kerry
Chairman
Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We understand that your Committee plans an open hearing on 15 October on the analysis of [redacted] airborne imagery which may contain evidence of the presence of American POW/MIAs in Southeast Asia. I am providing this letter to recap the nature and classification of [redacted] materials we have provided to the Committee and to emphasize that [redacted] has not been declassified. Recent press accounts cause us to believe that there may be some confusion about this. (S/NF)

(S/NF)

As you know, we have provided several unclassified line drawings, some with pseudocolor graphics of the possible surface markings. These black and white line drawings are artists' portrayals of the possible markings. Contrary to what has been suggested on national news programs on 6 and 7 October, the pseudocolor graphics are not satellite imagery or derived photographic prints, nor are they raw data. They are the product of computer analysis of imagery to illustrate the appearance of possible symbols or markings. The computer graphics are an alternative form of analysis designed to minimize normal human bias in making line drawings based on imagery and to keep the actual imagery classified. (S/NF)

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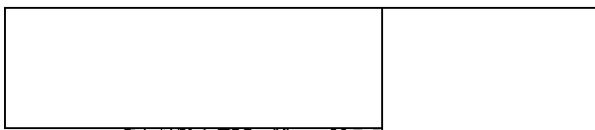
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The Honorable John F. Kerry

We hope that this makes clear the classification status of the imagery materials we have provided. Your staff should contact my office if there are any questions about the classification of these materials prior to the open hearing.. (U)

An original of this letter is also being sent to Vice Chairman Smith. (U)

Sincerely,



Stanley M. Moskowitz
Director of Congressional Affairs

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